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A project person with a capital "P", Mother would tackle a large endeavor,

attain a degree of excellence, then turn to another.

1928, Havana - (to Mother) Well, that old Ware River news ought to be down here if they think I'm not working seven days a week and until 11 at night sometimes and often until 9:30 or 10 But it is worth it because you see a lot down here I worked Sunday until 11 p.m. at night so Mother don't think you have to work hard at all

Large colorful afghans were crocheted square by square Her patient seamstress hands ripped up Daddy's worn uniforms or tore apart her old flowered seersucker evening dress and transformed them into skirts, pinafores and jumpers for her twins Used bed sheets became blouses with ruffled cuffs As I stood for a fitting at her sewing machine, I felt the love in my mother's hands as she lightly pinned or shifted materials and patterns on me

July 6, 1929, Buenos Aires - Mother says that although she would like a radio she needs two new dresses and isn't working much Gee, Kathie, I don't think it is fair. She is only working about three days a week and yet she doesn't try to save a little by making over her old clothes. She has a whole shirtwaist boxful in the bedroom and a whole closetfull up stairs I know I saw lots of slips that needed just to be sewed a little and a lot of dresses that just needed to be dyed a little and she could make curtains of old dresses and things like that. When I went to high school I used to take the old petticoats she threw in the ragbag and dye them and make dresses and I am sure nobody showed me anything about sewing, I just did it because I had to

When cooking became an enterprise Mother worked her way through the Betty Crocker Cookbook, marking off each recipe and moving on to the next "Our runnerup in the cake contest is Dorothy Blackledge," we heard on the radio one afternoon, "who entered a lamb-shaped cake, using cocoanut for the lamb's

wool, a cherry for the nose,

1929, Buenos Aires - Mother's been working about three or four days a week on the average for about three years now. Do you think I would stay hanging on to a job like that when I was able bodied and knew if I just watched